OAS Materials – FAMOUS PERSONALITIES OF ODISHA – Notes of Jadumani Naik

Famous Personalities

- **Byasa kabi Fakir Mohan Senapati** (1843-1918) – writing short stories, about common man & his problem, =Premchand, theme – Odia Nationalism, 'Rebati'

- **Utkala Gourava Madhusudan Das** (1848-1834) – 1st Odia to get M.A. B.L. from Calcutta University, for unification of Odisha, a symbol of new hope & aspiration, Utkal sammilani, architect of Odia movement, 1st Odia to be the member of Legislative Coincil & Central legislative Assembly, 1st to sail overseas

- **Utakalamani Pandit Gopabandhu Das** (1876-1928) – Gandhi of Odisha, separate province of Odisha, shattered the shackles of narrow caste barriers, a law graduate from Calcutta University, freedom fighter & a great social reformer, poet, educationist, Satyabadi Vana Vidyalaya, regarded politics as an instrument to serve the people; *" Let my body mingle in the soil of my motherland and let my countrymen walk across it"; "We live by our works & not by years";*

- **Nilakantha Das** (1884-1969) – M.A. degree in philosophy from Calcutta University, Master of Satyabadi High School, orator, writer, editor, speaker, author, Commentry of Geeta, freedom fighter & revolutionary

- **Biswanath Das** (1889-1984) – Freedom fighter, statesman, administrator, a charismatic leader, joined NCM, member of Madras Legislative Assembly, CDM, Peasant movement, separate Odisha province, Prime Minister of Odisha, elected to Parliament, Governor of UP

- **Maharaja Krushna Chandra Dev** (1892-1974) – an architect of modern Odisha, attended 1st RTC, for separate Odisha, member of Madras Legislative Assembly, 2 times PM of Odisha, educationist, freedom fighter, social reformer & a champion of the poor, Paralakhemundi theatre

- **Raja Aratatrana Deo** (1900-1946) – raja of Khariar, patron of art, culture & education, Beer Bikram Theatre of Khariar, separate Odisha

- **Biju Patnaik** (1916-1997) – pilot, interest in S&T, International Kalinga prize, Industrial movement in Odisha, Air Transport command during WW 2, freedom fighter, underground activities during QIM,

- **Chandra Sekhar Behera** (1873-1936) – Sambalpur, freedom fighter, NCM, National school of Sambalpur, received Gandhiji in SBP in 1928, against illiteracy & untouchability

- **Pathani Samanta Chandrasekhar** (1835-1904) – Mahamahopadhyaya Chandra Sekhar Simha Samanta Harichandan Mohapatra, astronomer, Khandapara, wooden sticks & bamboo chips, great accuracy in measurement, “The Siddhanta Darpana”, Odia almanaces

- **Harekrushna Mahatab** (1899-1987) – freedom fighter, joined INC & organised satyagraha in Balsore, Odia daily “Prajatantra”, CDM, imprisoned in Ahmednagar jail, CM, cabinet minister, against emergency in 1976, integration of Indian states

- **Radhanath Rath** (1896-1998) – journalist, writer, speaker, Padmabhusan

- **Gangadhar Meher** (1862-1924) – Prakruti Kabi/ Swabhaba kabi, Barpali, literary creations emphasing moral values, poet, teacher, social reformer, “Tapaswini”, Pranaya Ballari, Kichak Badha;

- **Rajendra Narayana Singh Deo** (1912-1775) – educated at Mayo College Ajmer, enlightened ruler of Patna state, banned forced labour, Chamber of Princes, 1st ruler to sign the merger agreement with Indian Union, President of Utkala sammilini & Ganatantra Parishad, Swatantra Party, CM (1967-1971)

- **Ramachnadra Bhanja** (1870-1912) – an enlightened ruler of Mayurbhanj, Philosopher king, made Gopabandhu das as his advocate, scientific operations of iron mines, narrow gauge railway line from Rupsa to Baripada, President of 1st Utakala Sammilini, SCB Medical college Cuttack

- **Nandini Satpathy** (1931-2006) – 1st lady CM of Odisha, author of poems & short stories, editor of Odia monthly “Kalana”, transalated novel “Lajja”, Odisha women’s Relief Committee, led Indian film delegationbs thrice, Chairperson of Children’s Film Society of India

- **Kalindi Charan Panigrahi**(1901-1991) – Sabuja Gosthi poet, story writer, novelist, autobiography “Jaha Ange Nivaichhi”, Padmabhusan, “Matira Manisa”

- **Baji Rout** – Saheed Baji Rout youngest matyr, 13 yo, 11th October 1938, ferry boy from Nilakanthapur village of Dhenkal, river Brahmani, Prajamandal meeting,

- **Bauxi Jagabandhu** (– 1829) – The chief architect of Khurda Paik Rebellion of 1817; Bauxi Jagabandhu Bidyadhara Mahapatra Bhramarabara Ray; King Mukunda Dev II, surrendered in 1825 to British & died in 1829;

- **Bhagirathi Patnaik** –

- **Birsa Munda** (1875-1900) – Indian tribal freedom fighter & a tribal hero; Munda Ulugulan, died in Ranchi jail; his portrait hangs in the Central Hall of Indian Parliament, the only tribal leader to have

- **Biswambhar Parida** (1921-1999) – Gandhian freedom fighter, Jagatsinghpur, Journalist,

- **Chakhi Khuntia** – Chandana Hajuri, accompanied Rani Laxmibai during the Great Revolt of 1857

- **Chakra Bisoi** – Kondh, fire-brand revolutionary, revilt against British rule in Ghumusar, against suppression of Maria sacrifice, ignited the spirit of revolution among Kondhs, captured & hanged, close associate with Dora Bisoi

- **Dora Bisoi** – Kondh, revolutionary

- **Ghanashyam Panigrahi** (1881-) – Bargarh, Politician, freedom fighter, attended AICC in 1921 at Ahmedabad, a school teacher, Ayurveda,

- **Gurubari Meher** – Sonepur, Freedom fighter, Praja Mandal Movement , after independence led a mass movement against the pro-British king of Binika, shot dead by police

- **Jayee Rajguru** (1739- 1806) – Jayakrushna Mohapatra, freedom fighter, Puri; political, military & spiritual advisor of king of Khurda; Dibyasingha Dev II, Mukunda Dev II; all in all with the king as head; prisoned at Barabati fort; instigated the paikas to raid British territory; trial at Baghatota in Midnapore, brutally killed; GoI is neglecting Jayee Rajguru as the 1st freedom fighter of India

- **Jatindranath Mukherjee (Bagha Jatin)** (1879-1915) – death in Balsore, Indian Independence Movement, Indo-German conspiracy, Christmas day plot, a Bengali revolutionary, Yugantar party, indoctrination of Indian

soldiers, bomb factory at Deogarh,

- **Laxman Nayak** (1899-1943) – Tentuliguma of Koraput, Chef de Mission in the congress campaign in Malkangiri, Gandhian principles of truth+ nonviolence+ peaceful non-cooperation, carried a Charkha with the message of adult education & abstinence from alcohol to every tribal household, QIM, led a procession on 21st august 1942 infront of Mathili police satation, falsely charged in a murder case, hanged on 29th March 1943 at Berhampur jail

- **Madhusudan Rao** (1853-1912) – "Bhakta kabi", Poet, philosopher, freedom fighter; notable works – Barnabodha (1895), Sishubodha, Balabodha, Sahitya Kusum, Prabandhamala; Puri, ancestors – Bhonsle of Maharastra; Dy. Inspector of education, Inspector of Odisha Schools Association; retired from government service in 1907 & spent rest of his life in writing; Expertise in child literature, Magazines – Shikshyabandhu, Asha, utakala Sahitya, Utkala darpan; adopted Brahma Dharma in 1870; a social reformer; Best poems – 'Basanta gatha', & 'Utakala Gatha'; father of modern Odia poetry; a poet, philosopher & idealist

- **Malati Choudhuri** (1904-1998) – Indian civil rights & freedom activist & Ganhian; Upper middle class Brahmo family; Spouse Nabakrushna Choudhury; joined Vishva-Bharati; family originally belonged to Dhaka=>Bihar=>Odisha; adult education; salt satyagraha; accompanied Gandhiji in Odisha; arrested several times; organised 'Krushaka Andolan'; many honours & awards like national Award for Child Welfare

- **Nabakrushna Choudhuri** (1901-1984) – Freedom fighter, INC, CM (1950-1956), Spouse malati Choudhuri, Revenshaw college to shantiniketan, simple life, literacy & adult education, Odia as official language, diplomatic mission as principal negotiators along with Mridula Sarabhai for Kashmir affairs

- Nityananda Mohapatra

- **Parbati Giri** – 'Mother Teresa of Western Odisha', female freedom fighter, Bijepur of Bargarh, aznti-British government activities, imprisoned for 2 years, opened an orphanage at Paikmal & devoted rest of her life for the welfare of orphans; In December 2016 GoO named an Irrigation scheme in her name;

- **Prana Krushna parija** (1891-1978) – Jagatsinghpur; member of ist OLA; Principal of Revenshaw University; VC of Utkal University; Parija Library of Utkal University; Padma Bhushan in 1955; a distinguished scientist & a great educationist; Botany;

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- **Rama Devi** – Disciple of Gandhiji; CDM in Inchudi; Organiser + Speaker + Campaigner + Inspirer; against untouchability & communalism; Organised a Pada yatra to support Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan Movement; Emphasis on education + emancipation + empowerment of women; Rama Devi Women's Autonomous College;

- **Rindo Majhi** – Freedom fighter, Kondh revolution in Kalahandi, against British tax collection policy, imprisoned in Rasalkanda jail in 1853, hanged

- Sarat Chandra Das

- **Subhas Chandra Bose** (23.01.1897-1945) – Cuttack, Netaji, armed rebellion, Forward Bloc, INA, 'Jai Hind', *"Give me blood, I will give you freedom"*, Book – 'The Indian Struggle', Socialist, a militant nationalist, empowerment of women, democratic ideas, Tokyo in 1943, Singapore, Head of Free India Provisional government, Imphal, WW II, believed that Plane crashed on 18th august 1945 in Taiwan (en route to Soviet Union in a Japanese plkane)

- **Veer Surendra Sai** (23.01. 1809-23.05.1884) – Freedom fighter, Khinda near Lapanga, descendant from Madhukar Sai, Hazaribagh jail, died in Asurgarh, Recognisation for VSS – yet to get right place in history due to state administration's ignorance & carelessness, in 2009 University of College of Engineering (UCE) Burla=> VSSUT Burla, In 2005 GoI decided to put a statue of VSS at the premises of Parliament, VSS Medical College, Postal stamp,